

C2431-2160 BC 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th DYNASTIES

Now follows the first period of anarchy, invasion of the Asiatics. Two dynasties ruling at Heracleopolis appear to be the most important, but how far they were contemporaneous with other princes ruling elsewhere whose names are recorded is uncertain. The country was split up and when centralized power (the "Middle Kingdom") reappears with the 11th Dynasty, Thebes in the south is its seat.